

1853
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CANADIAN .

Prohibitory Liquor-Law-League.

28

CONTAINING

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CONVENTION OF THE LEAGUE,

HELD IN ST. CATHARINES,

ON THE 24TH AND 25TH MAY, 1853.

TRACT No. 1.

PUBLISHED

BY ORDER OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

TORONTO:

PRINTED AT THE OFFICE OF THE NORTH AMERICAN,

ELGIN BUILDINGS, YONGE STREET.

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ALABAMA

REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER OF THE LAND OFFICE

FOR THE YEAR 1887

BY J. M. WATKINS

ALBANY, N. Y. 1888

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1888

BY ORDER OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMISSION

ALBANY, N. Y.

PRINTED AT THE STATE OF NEW YORK

UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE COMMISSIONER

1888

INTRODUCTION.

SEVERAL gentlemen, resident in the town of London and its immediate neighbourhood, deeply impressed with the importance of procuring the enactment of a Prohibitory Liquor Law for Canada to counteract the numerous evils produced and fostered by the use of alcoholic liquors as a beverage, resolved to form a Canadian Temperance League which should combine, not only the efforts of all members of Temperance organizations, but of all favourable to the attainment of this one object. For this purpose a circular was issued to various parties throughout the Province, and pursuant to that notice a meeting was held in the Odd Fellow's Hall, London, on the 21st of March 1853, at three o'clock P. M. at which Simeon Morrell, Esq., presided and W. G. Telfer, Esq., acted as Secretary. Besides the original movers in the work there were the following gentlemen whose names have long been associated with the cause of Temperance. H. W. Jackson, G. S. of G. D., S. of T., Hamilton; C. H. Vannorman, Hamilton; T. J. Owens, Wellington County Branch; Wilber R. Vining, Nissouri; G. Belton, Nissouri; Benj. F. Lazier, Wentworth County Branch; J. B. Jackson, Ingersoll; J. D. Waterman, Carlisle; John King, and W. Glasgow, Fingal.

After a full discussion the meeting resolved upon a Constitution and appointed the following gentlemen as Office Bearers who were to hold office until a general Convention, which was appointed to be held in St. Catharines on the 24th day of May, 1853.

PRESIDENT:

JOHN WILSON, Esq.....*London.*

VICE-PRESIDENTS:

<p>Messrs. Charles Askew...<i>London;</i> B. F. Lazier.....<i>Dundas;</i> J. A. Jackson<i>Ingersoll;</i> T. J. Owen<i>Guelph;</i> Rev. Jonathan Shortt....<i>Port Hope;</i> Mr. John Dougall.....<i>Montreal;</i></p>	<p>Rev. R. V. Rogers.....<i>Kingston;</i> Hon. M. Cameron<i>Quebec;</i> Mr. C. H. Vannorman ...<i>Hamilton;</i> " J. C. Beckett.....<i>Montreal;</i> " John McNab<i>Toronto;</i> Rev. W. Ormiston.....<i>Clarke.</i></p>
<p>R. J. Evans.....<i>Corresponding Secretary;</i> Wm. Rowland, Jun.....<i>Recording Secretary;</i> D. J. Hughes.....<i>Treasurer.</i></p>	

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

Messrs. Bissell,
J. B. French,
George Belton,
Rev. Wm. McClure,
Rev. W. F. Clarke,
Rev. R. Boyd,

Messrs. Wm. Rowland, Sen.,
James Egan,
J. K. Brown,
S. Morrell,
H. Blinn,
Rev. C. C. Brongh.

The Executive Committee here appointed issued an able Manifesto to the people of Canada, from which we extract a few lines to show the spirit by which they were animated in their movement.—They say: "The Executive Committee entirely disavow any desire to confine it to any peculiar locality; and hope that at the next election of Officers, the most sincere and active men of sterling temperance principles will be appointed to carry out the objects of the League." Convinced of the genuineness of this feeling, various Branch Societies were formed, to act in concert with the Parent Society in London, in carrying out the great object. From these Branches, Delegates were sent to the Convention at St. Catharines on the 24th of May. The following pages will detail the proceedings of that Convention.

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when names have long been associated with the cause of Temperance.
H. W. Jackson, G. S. of G. D. S. of F., Hamilton; C. H. Van-
somer, Hamilton; W. A. Brown, Washington County Branch;
William H. Fitch, Niagara; G. B. Brown, Niagara; Basil F. J. J. J.
Westport County Branch; A. B. Jackson, Niagara; J. D.
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VICE-PRESIDENTS:

Rev. H. V. Rogers, Kingston	Messrs. Charles Ash, London
Rev. H. J. Rogers, Quebec	R. E. Parker, London
Mr. C. H. Vandermant, Hamilton	J. A. Jackson, Niagara
" J. C. Beckett, Montreal	T. J. Owen, Quebec
" John McKee, Toronto	Rev. Jonathan Shuter, Port Hope
Rev. W. Greenstone, Canada	Mr. John Douglas, Montreal

Corresponding Secretary
Wm. Rowland, Sen., London

Recording Secretary
H. A. Hughes, London

PROCEEDINGS, &c.

TOWN HALL, ST. CATHERINES,
24TH MAY, 1853.

On Tuesday the 24th inst., a General Convention of the Canadian Prohibitory Liquor Law League was held in the Town Hall, St. Catherines, to revise the Constitution adopted at the formation of the League in London on the 21st March last,—to appoint officers for the ensuing year, and transact any business that might be brought up in connexion with the League. The Convention was very large and important, and the proceedings were conducted with the greatest decorum and harmony.

The following delegates presented their credentials:—

Rev. Joshua H. Johnson, Dr. Beatty, and Dr. Powell, *County of Northumberland*.
C. H. Vannorman, A. Skinner, H. W. Jackson, and William McCulloch, *of Wentworth*.
Abraham Farewell and Dr. Tempest, *of Ontario*.
Rev. W. F. Clarke, S. Morrell, J. B. French, Richard J. Evans, and William Rowland, jr., *of Middlesex*.
Rev. J. E. Ryerson, Rev. W. S. Griffin, W. J. Currie, J. Dalbier, D. P. Haines, S. Jones, Thomas Meredith, C. C. Kingsbury, J. J. Boyd, *of St. Catherines*.
W. Barr and J. Connor, *of Niagara*.
Rev. Hiram Denny, *of Halton*.
Rev. Robt. Dick, William McDougall, G. P. Ure, John Woodall, John Cameron, M. Sweetnam, Rev. Thomas T. Howard, *of York*.
Thomas Nixon, *of Newmarket*.
Dr. Vannorman, *of Wellington Square*.
Abishai Morse, Henry Smith and, Thomas Luffe, *County of Lincoln*.
George Pirie and Peter Gow, *of Waterloo*.
R. A. Foley, and Alpheus J. Polley, *of Norfolk*.

Besides these delegates, there was a number of gentlemen present to attend the Annual Meeting of the Grand Division of the Sons of Temperance, to be held in the Town Hall on the following day. These gentlemen, being identified with the Temperance movement, were requested to correspond with the Convention, although the voting was restricted to the delegates who had presented credentials. In the absence of the President, John Wilson, Esq., of London, Mr. C. H.

Vannorman, one of the Vice-Presidents, took the chair. The Chairman briefly stated the cause of the President's absence, alluded to the death of one of the Vice-Presidents, Mr. B. F. Lazier, of Dundas, and then called upon the Rev. Mr. Clarke to open the meeting with prayer.

The Rev. Mr. Clarke having offered up a very appropriate prayer, the Convention transacted some routine business, and, on motion, adjourned till two o'clock, as the County of York delegates were not all forward.

At two o'clock the Convention re-assembled, the Vice-President, Mr. C. H. Vannorman in the chair, the Rev. Joshua H. Johnson opened the meeting with prayer.

The Secretary was then called upon to read the Report of the Executive Committee.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

At this, the first Convention of the Canadian Temperance League, the Committee cannot but express their pleasure at meeting so large and respectable an assembly, having for its common object the advancement of Temperance; and hope that in the various matters that may be brought up for consideration, that spirit of harmony and good feeling may be preserved without which our deliberations will be fruitless and our efforts vain.

From the very short time that has elapsed since the formation of the League, it cannot be expected that the Executive Committee have been furnished with the necessary material wherewith to provide anything like a regular Report. The interval has been chiefly employed in making public the principles and purposes of the movement, and in correspondence with those anxious to co-operate; and it must be gratifying to watch the earnest and cordial manner in which the promoters have been seconded by the number of Branches which have been organized and reported through the public Press. Nor is it a matter of much less satisfaction, that that portion of the Press which is generally forward in advocating the moral reforms of the times has, with regard to the League, expressed its approbation in warm and hearty terms.

Although, to the present Convention, who are presumed to be tolerably conversant with the history of the Temperance cause in this Province, it is not necessary to go into detail,—yet it may not be amiss briefly to recur to the past, and notice its progressive advances, through the several organizations, to the present time, worthy as they all are of being considered as so many stepping stones towards arriving at that degree of popular favor which the Temperance cause now fairly enjoys.

Universal as the use of Alcoholic Liquors was a quarter of a century ago; necessary as they were then considered towards the enjoyment of health; indispensable as they were deemed for the maintenance of all social and friendly feeling; and sanctioned as they were by the laws of all civilized countries,—it is not to be wondered at, that the first men who had the courage to propose moderation in their use, were derided as a set of wild enthusiastic fanatics, who would curtail the enjoyments of human life, and withdraw one of its chief supports. Their proposition, to use even moderately, alcoholic liquors, slight as the reform might be considered at the time, and ineffectual as it might be deemed by Temperance men at the present day, was, nevertheless, the small and apparently worthless acorn, which, though thrown upon an unprepared and ungenial soil, took root firmly and deeply, and, having braved the storms and tempests of opposition, now stands like a proud oak, spreading its umbrageous arms over thousands who have rallied under it for protection, and will doubtless become the wonder and admiration of generations yet unborn.

It will be needless to follow the course of Temperance and Total Abstinence Societies—the Rechabites, the Washingtonians, and the Sons of Temperance—through the several improvements each has devised, any more than to ascribe to each its share in procuring a more numerous and powerful force as it has advanced on its glorious career. Perhaps it may be said with truth that no one body, organized for a moral reform, has been more successful and efficient than the Sons of Temperance in North America. Within about ten years, it has planted branches of the order in every nook and corner, from the Atlantic to the Pacific; enrolled over a million and a half of pledged members under its beneficent banners; produced results which were never contemplated in its origin, and has been rewarded with a success that even its most sanguine projectors could never have anticipated.

Within the last two years a new era has commenced in the history of nations—an era which promises to be crowned with incalculable blessings, and which will assist the moral and intellectual exertions of the age more than any other achievement of legislation can. We need scarcely mention the enactment of Prohibitory Liquor Laws;—laws which will prevent the manufacture, and sale, and traffic, in beverages which are useless, unhealthy, and have immoral tendencies;—laws which will prevent the dealing in spirituous liquors, the intoxicating ingredient of which—alcohol—is not the product or creation of any living process in nature, but the result of a process which takes place in certain vegetable substances after they are dead;—laws which will forbid the sale of that, which, to the human constitution, is a poison—producing many, and aggravating

most of the diseases to which the human frame is liable—which tends to render diseases hereditary, and thus deteriorates the human race, weakens the understanding, stultifies the conscience, and hardens the heart—which often causes insanity, and produces predisposition to that disease in the offspring of those who use it;—laws which will prevent the sale of that which now occasions the loss of a great amount of property, lessens and destroys social enjoyment, and causes in numberless instances domestic wretchedness, and most of the pauperism and crimes in the community—which powerfully counteracts the efficiency of all means for the intellectual elevation, the moral purity, the personal benefit, and the public usefulness of men—which corrupts the public morals, and debases the public mind—which endangers the purity and permanence of free institutions—which shortens life—and, finally, leads men to dishonour God, and to destroy their souls.

These and many others are the evils which are ascribed to the pernicious traffic we deprecate,—not that it is to be inferred that all these evils will cease by legislative interference, but that they will be greatly reduced by such laws no one can entertain a doubt. Your Committee would ask—is not such a reduction worth an experiment? That laws can be passed for such objects is a matter of fact, as some of the American States furnish proof,—that they can be enforced and carried out when the public mind is in their favor is equally certain, and that the results so far have been satisfactory can be proved by statistics from such places where similar laws are now in force.

As to the propriety of soliciting the legislature to put a stop to the Liquor Traffic, the Committee and the League generally have but one opinion. They believe it to be the duty of civil governments to suppress the existence of all evils which endanger and injure the well-being of Society. That the Government by its present License System admits the evil tendency of the sale of spirituous liquors by enacting laws for its regulation, but that the system of licenses as a means of restraint on intemperance has always been a failure;—that the countenance of Government should not in any degree be given to it, and that while the business is legalized and sanctioned by the Government all the efforts of moral influence will be futile. That an evil of such vast magnitude as this requires not regulation, but total suspension,—and although such an enactment might appear to curtail the rights and privileges of some private individuals, yet that it is an acknowledged principle in all enlightened governments—that private interests must be made subservient to the general interests of the community.

One paltry objection that has been of late made to the temperance movement your Committee would just allude to: That as the

Temperance Associations have hitherto been so eminently successful by means of moral suasion, the same means should be continued, instead of the compulsory system. Your Committee consider that moral suasion is the only weapon they can use at present, and in fact until a majority see the necessity for and are determined to carry out a prohibitory law. Not one instant before it can be obtained constitutionally, and supported and enforced do they desire it, but when such is the case, they ask for it as a right. The Committee believe there are men in the world so devoid of conscientious motives, so reckless of principle, and so selfish in their views, that all the moral suasion in the universe would be insufficient to restrain them from evil, and these are the men who of late have thought of moral suasion. If moral suasion is so disregarded that men will commit the greatest crimes, and that even in the face of capital punishment, your Committee would ask how is it to be expected that men will desist from practices induced by intoxication, when the opportunity to become so is legalized and sanctioned by law?

This then is the object of the Canadian Temperance League—to advocate the necessity for, and the advantages arising from, a Prohibitory Liquor Law,—to petition the Legislature for such, and enlist into the service, all those who are willing to subscribe thereto.—Although working in union with the present temperance associations, this declares as its definite object, the interference of the law. While the Total Abstinence Societies declare their object to combine temperance men and reclaim drunkards, and the Sons of Temperance in addition provide a fund in case of sickness—so long as they respect the principles of the Order;—neither of them make their specific object the intervention of law, and both associations are necessarily confined to total abstinence.

It is generally allowed that there are thousands, and perhaps tens of thousands, who from some cause or other would refrain from connection with the Temperance Societies as they are at present constituted, who will be quite willing to assist in the League the objects we advocate. Some have strong objections to secret societies, some from the expense, others from a sense of their own inability to maintain a pledge: and some, who while they would be willing to see the drinking habits and usages of society abolished, have not the moral courage to set their example individually. Many of these classes, the League in its formation considered would be willing to co-operate. And your committee feel quite convinced of the propriety of maintaining this feature. No true Son of Temperance will feel his character diminished or his influence lessened by being a member of the League in addition, and a large augmentation to our force may be effected by this means without lessening the good resulting from others.—Of the 80,000 names appended to the petitions to the Legislature for a law

similar to that in Maine, it is a fact that they were not all those of total abstainers—and it is not to be supposed that they had less weight with the Legislature than those that were. Of the 28 members who distinguished themselves so nobly by voting for the second reading of that memorable Bill—we are quite sure that some of its most able advocates are not identified with us in our Temperance organizations, and your committee would very much doubt the propriety or reasonableness of repudiating their aid—because they will not come quite up to our standard. Again your committee are confident that there are hundreds of others—some Ministers of the Gospel and others holding influential positions in the country: men of high moral character and worth who will join the League, but who cannot be induced to subscribe to an abstinence pledge, and your Committee do not consider they would be acting with wisdom or prudence to refuse *their* assistance merely for the sake of ranking them with our opponents. This subject has been well considered by your Committee and they hope the constitution will be so preserved as that we shall be able to receive the co-operation of many who have hitherto kept aloof from Temperance Organizations.

As the constitution can be altered and amended at this Convention—it is intended to submit it seriatim, and it is hoped that whatever alterations may be made will result in its greater efficiency. Your Committee would, however, suggest that one Secretary should be appointed instead of two, and that if the duties connected therewith are considered too much to expect gratuitous service—a suitable compensation should be made. It is presumed that considerable correspondence will be involved particularly the coming year, and therefore it will be necessary that some gentleman of talent and ability should fill it.

Your Committee have also determined upon suggesting the propriety of engaging a Lecturer of first rate character and talent, who should be the paid Agent of the League,—whose duties would comprise the delivery of Lectures on the objects of the League, organize Branches where requisite, and collect subscriptions towards the advancement of the object. Your Committee acknowledge there may be considerable difficulty in obtaining a suitable person for this office, and would therefore suggest, that if one is not selected during this Convention, a Committee should be appointed for this especial object.

Your Committee also deem it a matter of vital importance in carrying out the League that some member of the Press should be engaged to advocate the claims and principles of the League, more particularly the necessity and demand, for a thoroughly Prohibitory Liquor Law.

Although it may be possible to do without one, for a time, leaving it to the voluntary advocacy of such of the Press as espouse the cause, the Committee deem it advisable that such a person should be engaged, as much good can be effected by that means. Although at the formation

of the League, Thomas McQueen, Esquire, of Hamilton, was recommended for such a duty,—yet, upon writing to that gentleman concerning it, he declined. Notwithstanding this, from the noble advocacy of the League by that gentleman, the Executive Committee felt it their duty to pass a Resolution instructing their Representatives to this Convention to express their thanks and mark their sense of approbation at the determined efforts which have been made by the Editor of the *Spirit of the Age* and others in furthering the objects of the League.

One other subject your Committee feel called upon to impress upon this Convention, namely,—The positive necessity of a Centralization of the Funds of the League in the hands and under the direction of the Executive Committee. It is quite evident that if the three means as above suggested are properly employed, together with the distribution of Tracts and the delivery of additional Lectures by private individuals in their own localities, much money will be required. As the engagement of these several parties will lie with the Committee, it is absolutely necessary they should be provided with the funds; and that the outlay can be much more judiciously made by the Executive Committee no member of the League can have a doubt. Without such a concentration of the funds, your Committee believe that the objects sought after by the Association will be frustrated. They therefore deem it their duty to urge upon this Convention, that an article be appended to the Constitution requiring that one-half of the funds arising from the annual contributions of the different Branches of the League, as well as the public collections and donations, be transmitted to the Treasurer of the League.

As the term for which the present officers were elected expires with this Convention, the Executive Committee, aware of the inconvenience arising from its members living at remote distances from each other, would suggest that the principal officers and the Executive Committee of the League be as much as possible from such localities as will admit of convenient meetings.

Your Committee would also suggest that some appropriate and uniform form of certificate of membership should be adopted, and that these should be supplied to Branches by the Secretary as they may be required.

Although, as before stated, the Committee have not received regular returns of the Branches of the League, they feel pleasure in stating that Branches, since those first announced in the Counties of Wentworth, Wellington, and Middlesex, have been organized in the Counties of Halton, York, Ontario, Lanark, Northumberland, Waterloo, and Lincoln, in the City of Hamilton, in Georgetown, and Puslinch.

Your Committee would feel their duties incomplete, were they to neglect to notice the recent debate which took place in the Legislative

Assembly on the motion for the second reading of the Bill introduced by the Hon. Malcolm Cameron to Prohibit the Manufacture and Sale of Alcoholic Liquors. No temperance man in the Province who signed the petitions for that desirable Bill can fail to be struck with admiration at the eloquent speeches of the Honourable mover—the Member for Kent, George Brown, Esq., and Mr. Sanborn. The division upon it, although fatal to the measure, cannot but be considered with regard to the temperance movement a decided proof of its growing popularity. The fact that twenty-eight members, one-third of the whole House, voted in its favor, is sufficient evidence that the voice of 80,000 persons has not been raised in vain, and augurs well for the future. This is only the commencement; what will the end be? Your Committee feel, and they trust the same feeling pervades the temperate portion of the whole Province, that such a result should arouse them to more vigorous action, more determined courage, more combination of forces, and more sure faith in the certain issue, confident that although opposition for a time may baffle their energies, they are engaged in a good cause, the cause of God, and of mankind, and that the strong arm of Providence will one day decide the battle, and proclaim them Victorious.

The above respectfully submitted by your Committee, and signed on their behalf.

W. ROWLAND, Jr.,
Recording Secretary.

It was moved by Mr. CURRIE, seconded by Rev. Mr. CLARKE, and

RESOLVED,—That the Report of the Executive Committee now read be received, and engrossed among the proceedings of the Convention, and that this Convention do now resolve into a Committee of the Whole to revise the Constitution.

Convention resolved accordingly, and Mr. A. FAREWELL was appointed Chairman.

Dr. TEMPEST moved that the first Article of the Constitution be amended by striking out the first clause after the name.

Mr. McDONGALL wished to know whether they were in a position to alter the Constitution, as Article 10 stated that "no alteration or amendment of the Constitution shall be made except at an Annual General Meeting of the League." This Constitution was in force and they must be guided by it, or throw it aside altogether. He wished to know whether this was considered the Annual General Meeting of the League.

Mr. CURRIE stated that it was provided by resolutions appended to the Constitution, that the arrangements then made, were only to remain in force until the Convention to be held in St. Catharines.

Dr. TEMPEST then moved that Article 1st be amended to read, "The name of this Association shall be the Canadian Temperance League, and

the object of the Association shall be the use of all constitutional means to procure the enactment and permanency of a Prohibitory Liquor Law in Canada."

Mr. CURRIE objected to the name, and wished to have it discussed separately from the objects of the Association.

Dr. TEMPER expressed his willingness to make the alteration in his resolution, and moved accordingly that the name shall be "The Canadian Temperance League."

Rev. Mr. DICK moved in amendment that the name be The Canadian Anti-Liquor License League. The operations of the League were not confined to Temperance men. It was composed of men of all classes, yet as it stands it is believed by many persons engaged in promoting total abstinence in the country, that the League is in opposition to existing agencies, and a powerful resistance is made to it in consequence; whereas,—the League is not a Temperance association at all, as the only idea contemplated is the securing a prohibitory Liquor Law. He deemed it wise to divide the article into two parts as it seemed awkward to attach the object to the end of the name. In most cases the object occupies a separate item and he thought in this case it should be so. The name then should be The Canadian Anti-Liquor License League, and as it was simply against the sale of the Liquor they inveighed, he thought such a name appropriate. Were it not however that the original name was associated with Temperance organizations, he would prefer the name Canadian Temperance League, and would almost be tempted to withdraw his amendment in favour of it. [Laughter.]

Mr. BARR thought the name a matter of secondary importance. The great object was the suppression of intemperance. This was something for the present, and therefore that item ought to remain, while the attainment of a Maine Liquor Law was something for the future, and also ought to be embodied. He therefore disapproved of the amendment proposed.

Mr. CURRIE moved that the 2nd Clause be amended by striking out the words "similar to the Maine Law."

Rev. Mr. CLARKE stated that he was present at the meeting in London, in March, when the name was adopted, and as the League aims at the promotion of Temperance, there was not the least opposition to the name Canadian Temperance League.

Mr. McDougall thought the name an exceedingly important question, and it ought to be considered by itself. He could speak in regard to the difficulties experienced in Toronto in reference to the name of the association. There is undoubtedly a feeling of jealousy among temperance societies, as to this new organization. They look upon it as aiming to cut them out, and take from them the credit of the work. He would therefore have the League called any other name they might agree upon. Their object was to get in all parties into the League, and if the name alarmed the Temperance friends they would only defeat the object in view. As the principal object of the League was to obtain a Prohibitory Liquor Law, they ought not to compel persons who do not come up to the standard and abide by the principles of the Temperance Societies to assume the name of Temperance. What they wanted was an Anti-Liquor Law, and some simple name embodying that would be

advisable. At the organization of the Branch in Toronto, several persons opposed it from the very fact that the name was in the way. The same arguments there used had appeared through the press, and unless some good reason could be shown for keeping the word "Temperance" in the name it should be excluded.

Rev. Mr. RYERSON considered this subject of the greatest importance. He should like that the name expressed the aims and objects of the association without subjecting the parties connected with it to the charge of inconsistency. The association is called the Canadian Temperance League and its first object is the suppression of intemperance, and the presumption is that all parties who identify themselves with this association will go for the suppression of intemperance. He would contend that a person who identified himself with the association and yet continues to drink every day would be subject to the charge of inconsistency, although he did not think that any such persons could identify themselves with an association for the attainment of a prohibitory Liquor Law. In the various organizations in existence their energies and powers are directed to the suppression of intemperance, while the chief object of this League is the attainment of a prohibitory liquor law and the maintenance of it when once obtained. We have to deal with the people as they understand these things. We cannot go to every man's fireside and give a definition to every one as to the name of this association and that we understand the man when he becomes a temperance man gives up all connexion with drunkards. Many prejudices he was sorry to say, were entertained in regard to this League. There are many persons however, who have petitioned for a Prohibitory Liquor Law who will not join any temperance association. They say, "if you get up an association for the purpose of obtaining a Prohibitory Liquor Law we will give you all our influence, but we will not join a temperance society." Such persons then were entitled to membership in the League. He believed the Convention should go back to the original question. He wished the suggestions made by the gentleman opposite [Mr. McDougall] would receive due consideration from the members of the League. They were not here to consult their own opinions or tastes. They ought to come as Canadians to consult the best interests of the Country, without submitting to the local prejudices of any party.

The CHAIRMAN read over the motion and amendments which had been submitted.

Dr. TEMPEST expressed his willingness to modify his motion to meet the views of the committee.

Rev. Mr. CLARKE said, all the old societies aim at the suppression of intemperance. We who are connected with the Temperance League aim at the same object, by the use of all constitutional means to gain the enactment of a prohibitory Liquor Law. We do aim at the suppression of intemperance. He was astonished that parties should come out for a Maine Law and yet not be considered temperance men. They must be considered temperance men, altho' they have not the same ideas of Temperance that we have. He was willing that the name Anti-Liquor Law League be adopted. It would be essential to remove everything like jealousy by expressing our views freely upon this subject. He considered the parties who feel jealous are those who

have not made themselves acquainted with the objects of the League. The parties who object most are those who have not read the constitution or the manifesto. It would be easy to remove misconception on this point.

Rev. Mr. RYERSON moved that the words "Canadian Temperance League" be struck out, and the words inserted, "The name of this Association shall be the Canadian Prohibitory Liquor Law League." He said he never dreamed of getting such an interpretation of the word temperance as he had heard from the Rev. Mr. Clarke. All the objections to the League by parties in this town [St. Catharines], had suggested themselves to his own mind and therefore he was prepared to meet them. But he denied that any man who might use his influence to obtain a Prohibitory Liquor Law, yet continued to drink his brandy daily, is to be considered a Temperance man. His example and influence are not exerted for the good of the poor inebriate, who needs such an example, and it has often been found hurtful to the community. You wish that class to identify themselves with this Association, why then give it a name, which every glass they drink charges them with a living lie. They may use their influence in petitioning the Legislature but never as temperance men.

Mr. BARR entirely agreed with the remarks of the previous speaker. He was sorry that the use of the Hall to the Convention was limited, as their discussions would necessarily be brief. There was an old-fashioned book which said they should walk in wisdom towards them that are without, and they should consider that, in giving a name to the Association.

Rev. Mr. CLARKE considered the name proposed by Mr. Ryerson very indefinite.

Mr. CAMERON, Mr. DICK, and Mr. RYERSON and others briefly addressed the meeting when the House divided, and the following amendment was unanimously adopted.

The name of the Association shall be "The Canadian Prohibitory Liquor Law League."

Dr. TEMPEST moved, seconded by Mr. Currie, that the words "similar to the Maine Law," be struck out.

Mr. McDougall said, if they attempted to define their object, it should be done correctly. If that object be the use of all constitutional means to procure a Law to prohibit the sale of intoxicating liquor as a beverage, the Bill before Parliament would meet their views. But they would find it a very different Law from that known as the Maine Law. He had himself drafted the bill recently before the House, and therefore must have paid some attention to the subject. The Maine Law he considered very defective, and not well adapted for Canada, and if the words "similar to the Maine Law" be retained, they will be incorrect as applied to Mr. Cameron's Bill. On that ground he considered the clause entirely inapplicable, and would move that the clause do read:—

'And its object shall be to procure by the use of all constitutional means the enactment and permanency of a Law in Canada, to prohibit the manufacture and sale of intoxicating drinks as a beverage.'

Seconded by Mr. JACKSON, and carried unanimously.

This closed the discussion on the first article.

Mr. NIXON moved that article 2 be amended to read, "all persons favourable to its objects may become members of the League, by paying an annual contribution of 7½d. each in advance.

Dr. TEMPEST, in seconding the motion, said that if the movement do not become popular, it will not succeed. They all knew that it was the aggregation of small particles that made up large masses; and in the same way, ten people would pay a York shilling to become members of the League, for one that would be willing to pay half a dollar for that purpose. He thought, therefore, that the price should be so low as to bring it within the reach of every one; and he believed that a York shilling was a fair payment.

Dr. BEATTY moved, in amendment, that instead of a varying rate, as stipulated in article 2, there should be a uniform rate of 1s. 3d.

Mr. VANNORMAN was afraid that if they put down the annual payment very low, it would curtail their means, and so tie up their hands as to prevent them effecting the good they contemplate. He thought that every one who considered the subject would say that the sum fixed in the amendment by Dr. Beatty was low enough. Any person desirous for the enactment of a Liquor Law would not grudge a quarter dollar to become a member of the League.

Mr. NIXON was sorry to say that the Temperance men, as a class, are about as close-fisted as any men in the world; and for that reason, he had made his motion to meet their views. He was sure that the membership would be far more numerous at a York-shilling than at a higher price; and he thought the operations of the League would be as well sustained. It was better to get twelve York-shillings than three quarter-dollars; and if, as Dr. Tempest had said, ten would join at the low figure, for one at the higher, the League would be more successful. He was sure that each man who signed a petition would pay his York-shilling; and they would get a great many more names to their petitions by this means than they would otherwise. He thought this the way in which the matter should be looked at.

Dr. BEATTY believed that as many would go for a quarter dollar as for a York-shilling; and he believed too there were many who would give a quarter who would not give a York shilling; and a great many more would join the League at that sum, he thought. The amount that would be raised by a York shilling, he feared, would be very small. He had not been very long a teetotaler, but he did not think he was more penurious on that account. He was quite satisfied there were many who would give their five dollars of a subscription, to help to carry on the work.

Dr. TEMPEST said if the rate were put at 7½d., he would procure a certificate of membership for his wife and all his little children; but if higher, he would not take so many. There would no doubt be a great many more members at the York-shilling.

Mr. CAMERON repudiated the expressions of Mr. Nixon, in reference to the penuriousness of Temperance people, and also in regard to the low scale he wished to adopt for membership. He regretted to have to oppose Mr. Nixon, but he was convinced Mr. Nixon's remarks were not intended to apply to all Temperance people. He knew something of Mr. Nixon's own liberality; and in this very instance, he had paid his half dollar to become a member of

the League. He believed that if the annual payment were reduced to a York-shilling, the association would be looked upon as worthless; and that by reducing it to a uniform rate of 1s. 3d., the end contemplated would be more surely gained.

Mr. FRENCH said that a man who had a family might be very anxious to have them all members of the League, but if they put a quarter on each head it became rather heavy for these parties. They would find many of this class amongst temperance men.

Mr. CURRIE moved in amendment that the article be adopted without alteration.

Mr. MORSE did not like the idea of undervaluing the ladies, by putting their entrance fee at half-price. He would rather put it at 7¹/₂d for all under 21 years of age.

Rev. Mr. RYERSON objected to the clause which admitted ministers without any subscription; ministers he thought had as much right to pay for the advancement of the objects contemplated by the League as any other party. If there was one class in Canada that ought to bring their influence and their means to this great work, it is the ministers of the gospel, and he should therefore be in favor of including them among those who pay an annual subscription.

Dr. BEATTY said the idea of admitting all ministers free to the membership of the League was simply an acknowledgement on the part of the people that the ministers of Christ should not pay for this object. He repudiated the idea that they were admitted upon the ground that they were beggars.

Rev. Mr. RYERSON said he looked at the measure in a common sense light, he looked at it as the world looks at it, and on that ground he objected to ministers being admitted as members, without payment.

Mr. BARR disapproved entirely of the remarks of Mr. Ryerson. The ministers of the Gospel give us their assistance in various ways and their admission to the association was only a matter of compliment. The Convention had a right to look at the position of affairs in a more charitable light.

Rev. Mr. CLARK dislikd the idea which had been stated, that Temperance people were disposed to be niggardly. He did not wish to keep things as they were, but would rather have them as they should be. He thought the proposition of a York shilling exceedingly small; and considered that if they could not have the admission fees as they were, they ought not to be reduced more than one-half. Supposing that the York shilling were adopted, it would require a membership of 80,000 to raise the sum of \$10,000. As it was necessary to have a large available fund, he would rather undertake to raise that sum at the rate of half-a-dollar membership than at the rate proposed. As regards the reference to ministers, he thought it much better not to alter that clause at all. He cared very little, however, personally, what was resolved upon by the Convention, as he would be a member of the League if it should cost him £5 a year. They should keep in mind that ministers are often put to great expense for the support of such objects, in attending meetings, and giving lectures, and in other ways, which other members are not called upon to do.

Mr. McDUGALL thought that course should be pursued which was most likely to be successful. Looking, therefore, at the object of the League

and its probable *modus operandi*, they ought to adopt a plan that will succeed with the aid of the more intelligent and more zealous of the Temperance community. He did not believe the League would be found a popular movement in its pecuniary aspect. It will after all rest mainly on the zeal, energy, perseverance, and money of a small minority. The great mass of the people, he hoped and believed, would concur in its object when called upon to act. But we must look to the active friends of Temperance to furnish the ammunition and direct the war. Now, looking at other popular movements, where money has been raised by subscription, he believed it would be found that the small sums produced, in the aggregate, the largest amount, according to the old Scotch maxim. Large sums have been raised in England by "penny subscriptions." But he doubted whether the same thing would occur here. It would perhaps be better, under all the circumstances, to adopt a uniform fee of 1s. 3d. That was a convenient sum—a sum so small that no one, who felt the least interest in the movement, would hesitate to pay it,—and yet it would produce twice as much as the York shilling scale from the same number of members. He would vote for fixing the fee at 1s. 3d.

The amendment and motions were then submitted, and Dr. Beatty's amendment of a uniform rate of 1s. 3d. was adopted.

Several amendments were suggested to the first part of article 2.

Mr. MORSE then moved that the committee now report progress, and ask leave to sit again. His object in doing so was to make another motion to the effect that the committee be released from further consideration of the report, and that a select committee be appointed to do so. He was confident they would proceed much more satisfactorily.

Dr. VANNORMAN seconded the motion.

Rev. Mr. RYERSON said a moment's consideration would show the impropriety of making such a motion, for after that committee reports, the Convention must again go through the whole matter, and a greater waste of time would be the consequence.

Mr. MORSE said that every argument which had been used by previous speakers showed the necessity of going into a Select Committee. The difficulties which present themselves are so much at variance with all our other machinery in operation, that it is apparent something must be done to meet them; and therefore, for the purpose of facilitating the business of this meeting, it would be better to refer the remaining part of the Constitution to a Select Committee.

Rev. Mr. RYERSON objected to the subject being referred to a Select Committee, as in his opinion it would only waste time, as the Report of that Committee must be brought before the Committee, and would require to be discussed perhaps at as great length as would now be required to go over the details in Committee of the Whole.

Mr. MORSE moved that the Committee do now rise and report progress.
Motion carried.

The Committee accordingly rose, and the Convention resumed,—C. H. VANNORMAN, Esq., Vice-President, in the Chair.

The Committee having, through their Chairman, reported progress, it was moved by Mr. MORSE, and

RESOLVED.—That the Committee of the Whole on the Report of the Executive Committee, and to revise the Constitution, be released from the further consideration of the above-mentioned subjects, and that a Select Committee be appointed for the same, to be composed of Messrs. Clarke, Beatty, Currie, Jackson, McDougall, and Mr. Farewell, with power to report thereon with all convenient speed.

Mr. MORSE then stated that some Members of the Convention were of the opinion that nothing could now be done until the Constitution was adopted, but in his opinion they could go right on to work the same as if they had not yet touched it.

On motion of Rev. Mr. JOHNSON, it was

RESOLVED.—That the Convention do adjourn until seven o'clock P.M.

EVENING SIEDERUNT.

The Convention resumed at 7 o'clock,—C. H. Vannorman, Esq., in the chair. The Rev. Mr. DENNY opened the meeting with prayer.

Mr. BARR said there was a subject to which he wished to call the attention of the Convention, and as there was nothing at present before them, he would submit a motion to the following effect:

RESOLVED.—That one or more Prizes be offered by this League for the best Essay or Essays on the principles of the League, as set forth in the Constitution; the Essays to contain from 15 to 20 pages 12mo., and to be sent to the Judges on or before the 1st September next; the Committee of the League to appoint three of their number to act as adjudicators; and the Essays to be published and put into gratuitous circulation, as the Committee shall see fit.

Mr. BARR stated that his chief desire in this motion was to remove the ignorance which prevailed in reference to this great movement. The importance of it had brought him to this meeting, and he was sorry to confess that in talking over the subject with many men highly educated, they seemed to know nothing at all about the objects of this League. He would say that it aimed at securing the best interests of man as an intelligent, rational, and accountable being. Some say that this League has for its object to deprive the subject of his rights; and therefore he considered it necessary that something of the kind he had submitted should be done in order to show they were not only in earnest with what they had engaged in, but to remove the misapprehensions that are entertained by many persons on this subject. He did not wish to dispute as to the exact terms of the motion, or how the Convention should proceed in reference to the Prizes; all he wanted was that the subject be taken up, and if there are any objections to the motion, he trusted they would be made in a manly, Christian manner.

Mr. CONNELL briefly seconded the motion.

Mr. NIXON moved in amendment,

That the motion now read be laid on the table till to-morrow morning.

He had no desire to quash it, but he wished to have all the Members of Convention present before it was taken up. It was well known they had appointed a Committee to revise the Constitution. That Committee was at present sitting, and he thought a subject of so much importance should be considered in a full house.

Rev. Mr. DENNY seconded the motion.

Rev. Mr. JOHNSON said he was just going to move a similar amendment, to the effect that the motion be laid upon the table until the Constitution has been adopted.

Mr. BARR said he was very happy that his suggestion had been so cordially received.

It was moved by Rev. Mr. JOHNSON, seconded by Dr. POWELL, and

RESOLVED.—That a Committee of three be appointed to prepare a Manifesto to the people of Canada, on the object and nature of the League:—said Committee to consist of Messrs. Evans, Ure, and the Rev. J. E. Ryerson, and to report to the Convention.

Rev. Mr. DICK moved, That whereas the Special Committee on the Constitution, cannot be expected to report immediately:—in order to save time when they do report, and as nothing of importance can be attended to until the principles of the Constitution are settled.

RESOLVED.—That the League do now resolve itself into a Committee of the whole, for interchange of views on the printed Constitution, until the Committee appointed thereon, are ready to report.

Rev. Mr. JOHNSON seconded the motion, which was then unanimously agreed to.

The Convention went into Committee of the whole accordingly, and appointed the Rev. Mr. DENNY Chairman.

The Committee having been engaged in such discussion for some time, the Committee on the Constitution announced the completion of their Report, whereupon the Convention resumed, Vice-President VANNORMAN in the Chair.

The Committee then through their Convener, Mr. McDUGALL, submitted the following Report.

To the President and Members of the Prohibitory Liquor Law League;—

Your Committee to whom was referred the Report of the Executive Committee, with power to revise the Constitution, would respectfully report that they would recommend that all that part of the Constitution, following the second Article be expunged, and that the following be substituted therefor.

Mr. CURRIE, as Secretary to the Committee, here read the whole Report and then read the Articles seriatim.

ARTICLE III.

Branches of the League may be organized in any city, town, township or village in the Province, and upon reporting their organization and transmitting to the General Secretary the per-centage required by the Constitution, they shall be entitled to representation at the Annual Meetings of the League.

Rev. Mr. DICK thought this principle a good one. The Convention had just been talking the matter over and were fully prepared for this article.

Mr. CURRIE read the next two Articles, which were adopted without discussion.

ARTICLE IV.

Branches shall be governed by a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and an Executive Committee, to be appointed annually.

ARTICLE V.

The Branches of any County may hold a County Convention whenever they deem it expedient.

Mr. CURRIE then read the sixth Article.

ARTICLE VI.

Each Branch conforming to the Constitution shall be entitled to send three Representatives to the General Meeting of the League.

Rev. Mr. JOHNSON moved in amendment that the Article read,—Each Branch conforming to the Constitution, shall be entitled to send one or more representatives to the General Meeting.

Rev. Mr. RYERSON considered it desirable that the number be limited to three, for if it was unlimited they might rest assured that the General Meetings would be thinly attended. It may be expected that many Branches at a distance from the place of meeting, will not send representatives at all, as they would calculate upon a great attendance from places more nearly situated, and thus the great objects of the meeting would be defeated.

Mr. CURRIE moved the adoption of the section as submitted by Committee.

Rev. Mr. DICK thought the principle objectionable; it was no where customary—it was not just. He would therefore move, in amendment, That each Branch of the League should send one representative to the General Meeting, and one additional representative for every 500 members the Branch contained. This would give to every Branch one representative at least, while it would represent more correctly the larger Branches, by giving an additional representative for every 500 members.

Rev. Mr. RYERSON respected the sanguine expectations of Mr. Dick, but thought the Convention should adopt something definite in the meantime.

Mr. CAMERON thought that some of the members were afraid of undue influence being used at any meeting of the League. He was satisfied that there were no selfish feelings in the matter so far as any of them were concerned in connexion with this movement. There was no danger that they would lose anything at all by the Branches being equally represented according to numbers or not. He could therefore see no harm that could personally result from adopting the Article as submitted by the Committee.

Rev. Mr. DICK said he had no desire to divide upon the question, and would therefore withdraw his amendment.

Mr. CURRIE moved the next article.

ARTICLE VII.

The General Meeting of the League shall be composed of such representatives, and shall be holden annually on the third Wednesday of June at such place as shall be appointed at the preceding Meeting.

Mr. URE submitted whether it were not better to fix the day of meeting for the first Wednesday or the fourth Wednesday of June, instead of the day named by the Committee. He did not wish to offer opposition, but would simply state that the Free Church Synod would assemble this year on the ninth of June, and the United Presbyterian Synod would assemble on the 15th of June; and as these seemed to be the usual times for their assembling, it would be well to keep that fact in mind when determining the day for the Annual Convention. He was gratified to see so many Ministers present at this meeting, and hoped that by another annual meeting their numbers would be greatly increased. It would be prudent, therefore, he thought, to fix upon a time that would give the Ministers of both these bodies an opportunity to attend, without encroaching upon their ecclesiastical legislation.

It was then unanimously resolved that the day of meeting be the Fourth Wednesday of June.

Mr. CURRIE moved the next section.

ARTICLE VIII.

The League shall be governed by a President, six Vice-Presidents, a Secretary, Treasurer, and an Executive Committee of twelve members, seven of whom shall form a quorum. The Officers and the Committee to be appointed at the Annual Meeting.

Mr. MORSE submitted whether it would not be better to appoint twelve Vice-Presidents, as had been done by the first convention. It was very important to have gentlemen so connected with the movement in different parts of the Province that they may be consulted by the Branches in any matter that may concern the general movement.

Mr. FARWELL said with regard to what had been submitted by Mr. MORSE, he would say that if twelve Vice-Presidents are appointed, they by virtue of their office, are members of the Executive Committee. When therefore a meeting of the Executive Committee is necessary, the Secretary will require to notify all these persons, scattered abroad throughout the country; and they might reason in this way, that if they did not attend, they would be bound by the acts of those who did attend, and thus it would be unfair to bind the whole Committee by the actions of one-half the number seeing that so great a distance from the seat of the Executive, rendered attendance next to impossible.

The original motion was adopted.

Mr. CURRIE then moved the next two Sections, which were adopted without comment.

ARTICLE IX.

The President of the League or any of its Branches shall preside at all General, Special, and Committee Meetings preserve order and decorum, decide all questions of order, and give the casting vote when a vote is taken, if there should be an equality of votes on any question and he shall sign all orders for money on the Treasurer.

The senior Vice-President present at any meeting shall act in the stead and perform the duties of the President during his absence, and in the absence of the President and Vice-Presidents a chairman may be appointed *pro. tem.*

The Secretary shall keep a register of all the doings and transactions of the Meetings and Committee of the League or Branch for which he is appointed, conduct its correspondence and sign all orders on the Treasurer for its necessary disbursements under the direction of the Committee.

The Executive Committee of the League shall have the general superintendence of the business of the League, subject to such rules and instructions as may be prescribed for their regulation at the Annual Meeting, and shall make an Annual Report of their proceedings.

The Treasurer shall receive and keep all moneys of the League or Branch, for which he shall be appointed, and disburse the same upon orders signed by the President and Secretary.

ARTICLE X.

All moneys received by the general Secretary of the League shall be acknowledged and paid over to the Treasurer, and shall be exclusively

devoted to the following objects, upon the vote, and subject to the direction of the Executive Committee, viz: 1st. For payment of the necessary incidental expenses of the League. 2nd. For carrying out in the most efficient manner the general objects of the League.

Mr. CURRIE read the next section.

ARTICLE XI.

Twenty-five per cent. of all the moneys received by the Branches shall be transmitted quarterly—on the 1st day of the months of January, April, July and October, through their respective Treasurers, to the Secretary of the League, and such money shall be accompanied by a report of the proceedings of the Branch, with the number of its members.

Mr. FAREWELL said that the Committee, in fixing upon twenty-five per cent, considered that the Branches would require a considerable part of their funds to carry on their own immediate local operations, such as the incidental expenses of forming the Branch, and the employing of a Lecturer to lecture at every school-house or eligible place in the neighborhood—on the propriety of passing a Prohibitory Liquor Law; and that therefore one-fourth of their funds raised would be sufficient to transmit to the Executive to enable it to carry out its objects.

Mr. ROWLAND said that if the Executive Committee be the party charged with the responsibility of carrying on the League, by the engagement of Lecturers and the publishing or purchasing of Tracts, and in other ways promoting the cause, they will find that they have a great work to do, and nothing to do it with. On the other hand, if three-fourths of the funds be retained by the local Branches, they will have to do all their own work and the Executive may rest assured that it would not be so well done. We must have at the outset good, able, and efficient Lecturers, the number to be determined by circumstances, and it is easy to see that the Executive Committee could make more advantageous arrangements on this point than any of the Branches. Then the publishing of Essays, or Reports, or Tracts, could be more effectively and much more cheaply undertaken by the Executive, than by allowing each Branch to do in that way as it thought proper. It struck him forcibly that if the Article, as moved, be adopted, the League would just resolve itself into a number of large temperance societies. He would therefore move, That fifty per cent of the funds raised by the local Branches be transmitted to the Executive.

Mr. McDUGALL considered that the real work must be done by the various local societies. Our main object is to operate upon the counties in which the temperance feeling is not so strong on the subject of a Prohibitory Liquor Law, in order to produce a change at the next election. It is argued that twenty-five per cent is too small a sum for the operations of the Executive, but the best answer is that we could not get more. He had no doubt that the Executive could expend the money more effectively, in the way intimated by Mr. Rowland than if left to the various local Branches; but the same object may be gained by the Branches getting their Tracts or other publications supplied by the Executive, and paying for them separately, and also in the same way aiding in support of a Lecturer. The great object was to get Branches formed and set to work. He, for one, would be happy to assist in

their formation in his own county, and he had no doubt that many clergymen and others favorable to the movement would willingly help in their respective localities. It would be desirable also to get a report of the proceedings of this Convention, to be placed in the hands of zealous temperance men throughout the country. In reference to an "organ" he would remark that he opposed its establishment as recommended in the Report from the Executive Committee. He was satisfied the subject would be more effectively brought before the country, through the various local papers friendly to the cause, than by one paper established for the special purpose of advocating the Claims of the League. Such a paper, unless circulated gratuitously, would fail to reach the very quarters where most needed, and would not, he was sure, accomplish the desired end, while there would be a feeling of hostility between the various Temperance papers as to which should be the organ.—We had seen something of this spirit already.

Rev. Mr. JOHNSON considered that 10 per cent of the funds to be sent into the Executive would meet more with the wishes of the country, as there was a strong feeling against centralization. Such a per centage he was satisfied would answer all the purposes contemplated, and would not operate against the prejudices of the people in regard to a centralization of the funds.

Rev. Mr. RYERSON said, in fixing the percentage the first question to be decided is, whether the Executive Committee are to employ Lecturers, publish the requisite tracts, and resume the responsibility of carrying on the whole work. If so then, 50 per cent would be required to accomplish this end; but, if the Branches are to do all this for themselves, then they want the money. The great point of consideration then is,—in which way would the work be most effectually accomplished? In his opinion, he thought the section as submitted by the Committee should be adopted.

Mr. FRENCH concurred in the remarks of the previous speaker, and considered at the same time that this Convention should take such steps in regard to the prosecution of the movement as would convince the people they were in earnest about the work, and were determined that it should succeed.

Mr. CAMERON said he was in favor of the small percentage being transmitted; but at the same time he would most cordially agree with the recommendation of the Committee, that 25 per cent. should be sent, for this simple reason, that we should do nothing to cripple the efforts of the Executive Committee. At the outset it may be expected they will require more money to meet actual expenses than at any future time; for they would require to issue copies of the Constitution and of the Manifesto throughout the country, to let the people know what has been done. They will require to furnish copies of the Bill submitted to the Legislature; and it might be desirable to append to that a copy of the speeches delivered in the Legislature in support of that Bill. It has been likewise proposed that prizes be given for the best Essays on the principles and workings of the League. The Executive Committee will require money to meet all these expenses, and therefore he could not see the propriety of restricting them so closely at the commencement of their operations. For this reason he considered that twenty-five per cent should be put in the hands of the Executive. With regard to the employment of Lecturers, it might be done

in this way: Let the Executive engage certain distinguished lecturers, and let these lecturers supply the Branches where required, the Branches paying a certain sum for each lecture.

Rev. Mr. JOHNSON said it appeared to him that they required either a much larger allowance than 25 per cent., or else 10 per cent. would meet their purposes. Let us look at the practical working of the plan. It is proposed to send lecturers through the country. Well it would require from 30 to 40 lecturers to visit the various districts as they wished them to be visited, and for such purpose it would require far more than 50 per cent.—What he wanted was that each Branch should employ some person as a Lecturer to go into every school section in the Province and agitate the question. Unless this is done their success would not be so great, and if they attempted it they would not be able to spare more than 10 per cent of their funds.

Rev. Mr. DICK would only detain them a minute or two. Mr. RYERSON has said, we should first decide the question;—What do we expect the Executive Committee to overtake? Now if we fix the remit at 10 per cent. we settle that question most effectually, so that the settlement of this point settles the question suggested by Mr. Ryerson. He would go for the 10 per cent because he thought it sufficient for the purposes of the Executive. Gentlemen may talk about the necessity of having large per centages, but he would say they cannot be got. They would only prevent the formation of Branches throughout the country, but let the per centage be low and the organization would soon become popular.

Mr. CURRIE submitted the views which influenced the Committee in coming to a determination on this point.

Rev. Mr. HOWARD considered that the great work assigned to the League would require much more than twenty-five per cent of an allowance to be transmitted to the Executive. They must look at this fact, the work must be done within twelve months, if accomplished at all; and the amount they were placing at the disposal of the Executive, he was sure, would not pay the printer's bills. They would require to make an impression upon the country in every possible way in favor of the League. They would require to go into every corner of the Province, taking as their watchword, "Down with the liquor traffic:" and in order that this may be accomplished the Executive should be well supplied with funds.

Rev. Mr. CLARKE thought that Mr. RYERSON put the question in its true light, and they were not coming any nearer to the answer. Let the Convention decide whether the Executive are to carry on the great work contemplated or whether it will be allowed to pass into the hands of the Branches. If we arrange to give the Executive a mere nominal per centage, we incapacitate them from supplying the country with lecturers, and we take out of their hands the work of the League while we have no provision in our Constitution that the local Branches shall carry it out.

Mr. MORSE wished just to state, that he thought 25 per cent would be required to carry on the work of the League, and would therefore support the section as submitted by Committee.

The Article was adopted without a division.

Mr. CURRIE then moved the last section in the Report, which was also adopted unanimously.

ARTICLE XII.

No alteration or amendment of the Constitution shall be made, except at the annual meeting of the League.

CONVENTION RESUMED.

The Convention resumed, Vice-President C. H. Vannorman in the chair, when the Rev. Mr. Denny Chairman of Committee of the whole reported that they had taken up seriatim the articles of the Constitution prepared by the select committee and had adopted them as reported from the committee with the exception of Article VII which on suggestion of Mr. Ure was altered to fix the time of meeting on the fourth Wednesday of June; and also the 11th Article which on motion of Mr. Cameron seconded by Rev. J. E. Ryerson was altered so as to require the percentage and Report from the Branches to be sent quarterly on the first days of January, April, July, and October, in each year.

On motion of Mr. McDougall seconded by Mr. Farewell it was

RESOLVED. That the third Clause of the second Article of the Constitution be expunged, and the following substituted. Any person paying to the General Secretary of the League the sum of Five Dollars or upwards, may become a Life Member and entitled to a certificate, which shall admit such person to the General Meetings of any Branch in the Province.

The Constitution as amended in Committee of the whole was then submitted to the Convention, and unanimously adopted as it is here presented:—

CONSTITUTION OF THE LEAGUE.

ARTICLE I.

The name of this association shall be "The Canadian Prohibitory Liquor Law League:" and its object shall be to procure, by the use of all constitutional means, the enactment and permanency of a Law in Canada to prohibit the Manufacture and Sale of intoxicating drinks as a beverage.

ARTICLE II.

All persons favorable to its objects may become members of the League by signing the Constitution, and paying an Annual Fee of 1s. 3d. each, in advance.

All Ministers of the Gospel favorable to the objects of the League may become Members thereof by signing the Constitution.

Any person paying to the General Secretary of the League the sum of \$5 or upwards, may become a Life Member of the League, and entitled to a Certificate of Membership which shall admit such person to the General Meetings of any Branch in the Province.

ARTICLE III.

Branches of the League may be organized in any city, town, township or village in the Province, and upon reporting their organization and transmitting to the General Secretary the percentage

required by the Constitution, they shall be entitled to representation at the Annual Meetings of the League.

ARTICLE IV.

Branches shall be governed by a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and an Executive Committee, to be appointed annually.

ARTICLE V.

The Branches of any County may hold a County Convention whenever they deem it expedient.

ARTICLE VI.

Each Branch conforming to the Constitution shall be entitled to send three Representatives to the General Meeting of the League.

ARTICLE VII.

The General Meeting of the League shall be composed of such representatives, and shall be holden annually on the fourth Wednesday of June at such place as shall be appointed at the preceding Meeting.

ARTICLE VIII.

The League shall be governed by a President, twelve Vice Presidents, a Secretary, Treasurer, and an Executive Committee of twelve Members, seven of whom shall form a quorum. The Officers and Committee to be appointed at the Annual Meeting.

ARTICLE IX.

The President of the League or of any of its Branches shall preside at all General, Special, and Committee Meetings, preserve order and decorum, decide all questions of order, and give the casting vote when a vote is taken, if there should be an equality of votes on any question, and he shall sign all orders for money on the Treasurer.

The senior Vice-President present at any meeting shall act in the stead and perform the duties of the President during his absence, and in the absence of the President and Vice-Presidents a chairman may be appointed *pro. tem.*

The Secretary shall keep a register of all the doings and transactions of the Meetings and Committee of the League or Branch for which he is appointed, conduct its correspondence and sign all orders on the Treasurer for its necessary disbursements under the direction of the Committee.

The Executive Committee of the League shall have the general superintendence of the business of the League, subject to such rules and instructions as may be prescribed for their regulation at the Annual Meeting and shall make an Annual Report of their proceedings.

The Treasurer shall receive and keep all moneys of the League or Branch, for which he shall be appointed, and disburse the same upon orders signed by the President and Secretary.

ARTICLE X.

All moneys received by the General Secretary of the League shall be acknowledged and paid over to the Treasurer, and shall be exclusively devoted to the following objects, upon the vote, and subject to the direction of the Executive Committee, viz: 1st. For payment of the necessary incidental expenses of the League. 2nd. For carrying out in the most efficient manner the general objects of the League.

ARTICLE XI.

Twenty-five per cent. of all the moneys received by the Branches shall be transmitted quarterly—on the 1st day of the months of January, April, July, and October, through their respective Treasurers to the Secretary of the League, and such money shall be accompanied by a report of the proceedings of the Branch, with the number of its members.

ARTICLE XII.

No alteration or amendment of the Constitution shall be made, except at the annual meeting of the League.

It was then moved by the Rev. Mr. DICK, seconded by Dr. TEMPEST, and RESOLVED, That representatives McDougall, Johnson, Evans, Nixon and Powell, be a Committee to draw up a scheme of Instructions to govern the Executive Committee, and to report at the opening of the morning session.

On motion, the Convention adjourned until the following morning at 8 o'clock.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, 25th May, 1853.

The Convention met this morning, and on motion D. P. HAINES, Esq., was called to the Chair.

The Rev. Mr. CLARKE opened the meeting with prayer.

The minutes of previous sederunt were read and approved.

A little discussion was entered into, in reference to the appointment of the Executive Committee.

The Committee on Instructions to Executive, then submitted the following report:—

INSTRUCTIONS TO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Committee appointed to draw up Instructions to the Executive Committee beg leave to submit the following report.

1. That the Treasurer of the Executive Committee shall be required to give proper security, under the direction of the Committee for all moneys that may come into his hands as such Treasurer.

2. That the Committee shall prepare and present to the Annual Meeting a report of their proceedings during the year, with a statement of their receipts and expenditure in detail.

3. That the Committee shall from time to time, as their funds will permit, procure or publish suitable pamphlets, tracts, and other publications on the subject of a prohibitory law, for distribution among the several Branches.

4. That the Committee may employ one or more lecturers, and pay him or them out of the general fund, if sufficient, or arrange with the several Branches for that purpose.

5. That the Committee shall prepare a Petition to Parliament, in behalf of a Prohibitory Liquor Law, and take immediate steps to have the same circulated for signature throughout the Province.

Report was received, and the sections having been discussed seriatim were unanimously adopted.

It was moved by the Rev. Mr. CLARKE, seconded by Mr. FRENCH, and RESOLVED, That the following gentlemen be a Committee to nominate to this Convention a Staff of Officers for the ensuing year, viz: Messrs. Morse, McDougall, Beatty, Cameron, Farewell, Haines and Clarke, to report as soon as convenient.

It was then moved by Mr. CAMERON, seconded by Mr. FRENCH, and RESOLVED—That the Executive Committee be hereby instructed to order 4,000 printed copies of the proceedings of this Convention, including the Report submitted by the Executive Committee, and the Constitution as now adopted for distribution among the various Branches of the League.

It was moved in amendment by Rev. Mr. JOHNSON, seconded by Mr. CURRIE, That the number of copies be 2,000.

It was further moved in amendment by Rev. Mr. HOWARD, seconded by Mr. CONNELL, That the number be 10,000.

Both amendments were lost, and the original motion being again put, was unanimously adopted.

The motion of Mr. Barr which had been laid upon the table was then brought up, when, after some discussion it was moved in amendment by Rev. Mr. Johnson seconded by Mr. Ure. That the Executive Committee be recommended to offer a prize for an original essay on the nature and objects of the League as stated in the former motion the essay to be put into gratuitous circulation.

The Committee appointed to draw up a Manifesto, stated that they were now ready to report;—and reported as follows:—

MANIFESTO.

People of Canada! The Convention of the Canadian Prohibitory Liquor Law League, most respectfully address you, in the earnest hope that when you have become acquainted with the principles of this movement, your warmest sympathies will be enlisted in its favour, and your most active exertions devoted to the promotion of the great work

contemplated by the organization. As indicated by the name of this association, the League has for its ultimate object the attainment of a Law to prohibit the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors, unless for mechanical and medicinal purposes. It is composed of all parties favourable to this one grand distinctive principle, whether or not they have hitherto taken part in any existing Temperance organizations,—all persons being entitled to membership who comply with the terms of the foregoing Constitution.

Established on so broad a basis, the League will exert a salutary influence beyond the bounds to which any organization for the suppression of intemperance can possibly extend, while it is not its province, neither is it essential to its full development, that it should interfere in the slightest degree with any of these movements. And believing that by the prohibition of the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors as a beverage, all the reformatory efforts of these societies will be superseded, the Convention is inspired with the pleasing hope, that the most hearty support and most cordial co-operation will be given by existing Temperance Societies of whatever name; while at the same time the wider range of its operations will draw in all parties favourable to the attainment of the one great object in view, and give the League a moral influence in the community greater than has ever been exerted by any previous association.

As the enactment of a Prohibitory Liquor Law can only be effected by our representatives in Parliament, we call upon you, to select to represent you in Parliament, who will not simply consult the wishes of a portion of the community, but will represent the interests, and afford protection to, the people at large, by enacting a prohibitory Liquor Law. It is manifest that the License Law only affords protection to a small number in each community. It affords protection to the maker and the vender of intoxicating liquors, but it affords none to the sober and industrious portion of society; it affords no protection to the poor inebriate, rendered helpless by his depraved appetite, nor to his defenceless wife, and starving children, exposed to the ruthless ravages of this monster evil.

We implore you to give this subject your most serious consideration, not only in its moral, but in its pecuniary bearings. The evils which have resulted from our drinking customs entail not only misery and wretchedness upon society, but they involve an awful expenditure of money. At least five-sevenths of all the taxes which you are called upon to pay go to maintain the drinking customs of society, in some of their ramifications and results, and we are satisfied you will agree with us in saying that this enormous taxation might, at least, be applied to a more ennobling purpose.

Various objections have been raised to the principles and aims of the League, but these objections, for the most part, carry with them

their own refutation, and therefore need not here be specially referred to. Nor need we advert even in the briefest manner to the evils of our drinking customs, as these are sufficiently apparent to every one. A more pleasing subject would be the highly beneficial moral and spiritual results which would accrue to society from the entire extirpation of these pernicious customs, but this we leave to the calm reflection of the community.

While moral suasion has been very effective for good, it is utterly inadequate to contend successfully against all the drinking usages of society, not having at present a fair field for its operations. These usages have on their side, moral and physical suasion legalized. We have not only to contend against the time-honored drinking customs of society, but against all the evils which result from these, sustained as they are by the power of laws made and supported by ourselves.

We therefore most respectfully solicit your co-operation, while we endeavor to wipe from the Statute Book, laws so destructive to the moral and spiritual interests of the community; and by this means, not only to remove an alluring temptation from the pathway of the rising generation, but to emancipate the thousands of naturally warm-hearted men and women of Canada, who are enslaved by the debasing evils which these laws sanction and perpetuate. A new and highly-interesting field will thus be opened up for benevolent, philanthropic exertion, and another and more hallowed direction will require to be given to the immense amount of money now squandered. It is our earnest desire that this affluence should be directed to the promotion of the general prosperity of the community by the development of our natural resources, the extension of our commercial pursuits, and the fostering of all the intellectual and moral institutions of the country, and we ask your hearty countenance and co-operation in the great work in which we have engaged.

If our moral warfare is carried on with sufficient energy the struggle will be short; but to ensure certain success, a large amount of funds will be required by the Executive Committee.

We appeal, therefore, in conclusion, to your generous liberality to supply the Executive Committee with the sinews of war, that they may be enabled to proceed vigorously to the final issue.

It was then moved by the Rev. Mr. JOHNSON, seconded by the Rev. Mr. DICK, and

RESOLVED—That the Manifesto just read, and forming the Report of the Committee, be adopted, and ordered to be printed immediately.

Mr. URE said that as he had read from phonographic manuscript, he could not put the copy into the hands of the Printer at once, as he was desirous to attend the discussions of the League. But if it would carry out the spirit of the resolution now adopted, he would assure the Convention that the Manifesto would be printed in the *North American* of Friday first.

It was moved by Rev. Mr. JOHNSON seconded by Rev. Mr. DICK, and

RESOLVED. That the Convention recommended to existing County Branches of the League to divide themselves into Township, Town, Village, or City Branches as the case may require, and give to each Branch the funds already contributed by these respective localities.

It was moved by Rev. Mr. JOHNSON, seconded by Rev. Mr. DENNY, and

RESOLVED, That the next Annual Meeting of the League be held in the City of Toronto, on the fourth Wednesday of June, 1854.

Mr. MORSE, from the Select Committee on the Executive, said that to facilitate their progress, he begged to move, seconded by the Rev. Mr. CLARKE, That the word "six," in the eighth Article of the Constitution, fixing the number of Vice-Presidents, be struck out, and the word "twelve" substituted therefor. Carried.

The Committee then submitted the following Staff of Office-bearers for the ensuing year:—

PRESIDENT—JOHN WILSON, Esq., *London.*

VICE-PRESIDENTS:

Hugh C. Baker, Esq., *Hamilton.*
Dr. Beatty, *Cobourg.*
Rev. R. J. Rogers, *Kingston.*
E. F. Whittemore, Esq., *Toronto.*
John Dougall, Esq., *Montreal.*
Hon. M. Cameron, *Quebec.*

Hon. John Prince, *Sandwich.*
Rev. R. H. Thornton, *Oshawa.*
Rev. J. E. Ryerson, *St. Catharines.*
Rev. Fras. Evans, *Simcoe.*
Geo. Pirie, Esq., *Guelph.*
W. Patrick, Esq., M.P.P. *Prescott.*

SECRETARY—H. W. JACKSON, Esquire, *Hamilton.*

TREASURER—C. H. VANNORMAN, Esquire, *Hamilton.*

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

John Fisher, Esq., *Hamilton.*
J. L. Beardmore, "
Rev. J. Hogg, "
Mr. Skinner, "
John W. Bickle, "
Rev. E. Ebbs, "

H. R. O'Reilly, *Wellington Square.*
R. Spence, Esq., *Dundas.*
Wm. McDougall, Esq., *Toronto.*
Wm. Barr, *Niagara.*
Rev. John Bayne, *Galt.*
A. Morse, *Smithville.*

It was moved by Rev. Mr. JOHNSON, seconded by Rev. Mr. DENNY, and RESOLVED—That the Report of the Committee be now received, and that each set of officers be considered separately.

It was then moved and seconded, that JOHN WILSON, Esq., be appointed President for the League, for the ensuing year.

It was moved in amendment that Dr. BEATTY of Cobourg, be appointed President.

At the request of Dr. BEATTY, the amendment was withdrawn, and JOHN WILSON, Esq., declared elected President for the ensuing year.

The list of Vice-Presidents was then proposed and unanimously agreed to. The appointment of the Secretary caused considerable discussion, as the residence of the Secretary fixed the locality of the Executive. While Mr. Jackson was deemed the most eligible Secretary that could possibly be appointed, both as regards active business habits, long experience in the Temperance cause, and gentlemanly deportment, and while some of the members of Committee were well known to be active energetic friends of Temperance; yet it was contended by Rev. Mr. Howard, Rev. Mr. Dick, Mr. Cameron and others that Hamilton was not so fitting a locality for the Executive as Toronto, for various reasons, and that therefore the Executive should be located there. Messrs. Howard, Dick, and Cameron were then requested to nominate another list, when after a few minutes delay they submitted the following.

The following is the list of Office-bearers, as unanimously adopted:—

SECRETARY—G. P. Ure, Esq., *Toronto.*

TREASURER:—R. H. Brett, Esq., *Toronto.*

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

John McNab, Esq., *Toronto.*
Rev. Wm. Ormiston, *do.*
Wm. McDougall, Esq., *do.*
Rev. T. T. Howard, *do.*
John Cameron, Esq., *do.*
J. W. Woodall, Esq., *do.*

T. Nixon, Esq., *Newmarket.*
W. Barr, Esq., *Niagara.*
H. R. O'Reilly, Esq., *Wellington Square.*
Rev. Jonathan Shortt, *Port Hope.*
C. H. Vannorman, Esq., *Hamilton.*
A. Farewell, Esq., *Oshawa.*

It was then resolved that a vote of thanks be given to the two Secretaries, for their efficient services during the Convention, and that their necessary travelling expenses be disbursed by the Executive Committee.

It was then RESOLVED, That we do now adjourn, and that the next General Convention of the League be held in June, 1854, as the Constitution directs.

After prayer, by the Rev. Mr. Johnson, the Convention adjourned until the fourth Wednesday in June, 1854, then to meet in the City of Toronto.

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PRIZE ESSAYS.

THE Executive Committee of the CANADIAN PROHIBITORY LIQUOR LAW LEAGUE offer a Prize of £25 for the best Essay, and £12 10s for the second best Essay on "The Nature and Objects of the Canadian Prohibitory Liquor Law League: embracing also, full and reliable Statistical information upon the Extent, Expense, and Results, of the Liquor Traffic in Canada." The Essay not to contain more than from 64 to 96 pages octavo, letter-press: to be written in a fair, legible hand, and sent in to the Secretary (post-paid) on or before the 15th day of October next.

Each Essay must have a motto, and be accompanied by a sealed letter containing the address of the writer, and also the motto by which the Essay is distinguished.

The Committee have much pleasure in stating that the Rev. Dr. RYERSON, Superintendent of Common Schools for Canada, the Rev. Professor LILLIE, and the Rev. Professor TAYLOR, have kindly consented to become adjudicators. The Committee feel assured that these names will be a sufficient guarantee to the public, of ability, probity, and discrimination; and they leave it with them to determine whether any of the Essays sent in are worth the Prizes offered.

By Order of Executive Committee.

G. P. URE,
Secretary.